



## Good News from Parks and Recreation

*May 2014*



### *Parks and Recreation Resources and Links*

#### **Parks and Recreation Website**

[www.duluthmn.gov/parks](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks)

#### **Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

[www.duluthmn.gov/parks/master-plan](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/master-plan)

#### **Trail and Bikeway Plan**

[www.duluthmn.gov/parks/trailsbikeways/trails-bikeways-master-plan/](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/trailsbikeways/trails-bikeways-master-plan/)

#### **DNR 10/25 Parks and Trails Legacy Plan**

[www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund/plan](http://www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund/plan)

#### **Like us on FACEBOOK**

[www.facebook.com/pages/DuluthParksMN/210522078966064](https://www.facebook.com/pages/DuluthParksMN/210522078966064)

**Sign Up** for all Parks and Recreation press releases, this newsletter, and other City announcements at [www.duluthgov.info/db\\_frames/web\\_subscriptions](http://www.duluthgov.info/db_frames/web_subscriptions).

### *Flag Football Registration Open*

Signups for Duluth Flag Football 2014 are underway. A rising sports trend across the nation, flag football gives youth a chance to learn the values of teamwork and competition while having a blast and keeping in shape. As in years past, there are two flag football divisions: Blue (for students entering 2nd or 3rd grade) and Green (for students entering 4th or 5th grade). This season, each team will be assigned the name of an NFL founding franchise, giving coaches, family, and players an opportunity to learn about the history of one of our country's most storied sports. Registration forms are available by contacting Jesse Meehl at [jmeehl@DuluthMN.gov](mailto:jmeehl@DuluthMN.gov) or 218-730-4314.

## Chester Creek Concerts Summer 2014

# CHESTER CREEK CONCERT SERIES SUMMER 2014

June 3 .....	Chmielewski Funtime Band
June 10 .....	Lake City Smokin' Section
June 17 .....	Charlie Parr
June 24 .....	Fish Heads
July 1 .....	Saint Anyway
July 8 .....	Rock A Billy Revue
July 15 .....	The Formal Age
July 22 .....	Sound Incorporated
July 29 .....	Busterville
August 5 .....	Pot Bellied Stallions

\* Rain Dates August 12 and 19

**Tuesday Evenings from 7:00-8:30 P.M.  
FREE ADMISSION!**

Everyone is encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs while enjoying the beautiful outdoor setting at Chester Bowl Park - 1801 E. Skyline Parkway



Please call the Chester Creek  
Concert Hotline after 6:00 pm  
to check for cancellations:  
218-730-4326

[www.duluthmn.gov/parks](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks)





## Recreation

For the second year in a row, **Community Club Presidents** held a Summit to both celebrate their clubs and discuss current issues affecting their neighborhoods. This year's meeting was hosted by the Park Point Community Club, with a meal furnished by Parks and Recreation. Twelve presidents attended, each sharing their reasons for accepting the position of president, describing the unique qualities and accomplishments of their Clubs and musing on ideas for the future. It was an amazing glimpse into a very intricate and home-grown system of citizen involvement that has existed for decades. *Learn more about how you can get involved with your local community club by calling 218-730-4300.*

Two spring programs started last month: **Champions Building Champions** and **Ultimate (frisbee)**. Both focus on teaching youth the basics of various sport activities and use college athletes and volunteers as role models. Attendance for both has been good, especially for Ultimate, where over 20 kids from all over Duluth showed up for the first practice session. The Champions program, done in partnership with Men as Peacemakers, has mainly served the Boys & Girls Club participants each session, though it is offered, advertised and open to the general public and all non-profit youth-serving organizations. See event posters below.

# CHAMPIONS BUILDING CHAMPIONS

At the Duluth Heritage Sports Center



Spring Schedule:  
Thursdays 4-6pm  
April 17-May 22  
Duluth Heritage Sports Center  
120 S 30th Ave W

Summer Schedule:  
Thursdays 3-5 pm  
June 19-August 21  
Duluth Heritage Sports Center  
120 S 30th Ave W

Play sports activities on the Turf!  
**FREE** opportunity for youth ages 7-17

Activities are facilitated by collegiate athletes who focus on building constructive relationships with the youth involved, while teaching the basics of sports and athletic games.



**MEN AS PEACEMAKERS**



**DULUTH PARKS**  
*Fun Places. Great Spaces!*

For details call James at 727 1939

# ULTIMATE (frisbee) for KIDS!

This is an opportunity for youth ages 10-15 to learn the game of Ultimate and play games run by parent volunteers on the indoor turf at the Duluth Heritage Sports Center. Participants will have opportunities to learn the basics, practice new skills and play informal pick-up games with others.

**Skill development and practice sessions**  
**Wednesdays, May 7, 21, 28, 7-8:00 pm**  
(no session May 14)

**Game Days**  
**Sundays, May 11, 18, 25 and June 1, 1-3:00 pm**

For more information  
please call 723-4322





## *Recreation continued ...*

Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the Duluth Police Department and many other organizations to pull off an event on June 14th at the Duluth Heritage Sports Center/ Clyde Events Venue. It will highlight the new **Duluth Police Activities League (DPAL)**, a national initiative that was started to increase positive interaction and relationships between police officers and youth through recreational sports and activities, and celebrate the Duluth Police Department's acceptance as an official member. The kick-off event will feature many different sports, games, demonstrations, prize drawings and free food! See poster below.



The Duluth Police Activities League

# KICK-OFF EVENT!

*Building Positive Relationships Between Cops and Kids!!!*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH, 2014**  
**1:00PM-4:00PM (rain or shine)**  
**Duluth Heritage Sports Center**

**- ACTIVITIES -**

- KIDS CARNIVAL
- SPORTING ACTIVITIES
- SHOOT, THROW OR KICK  
- RADAR READINGS
- ROCK CLIMBING
- K9 DEMONSTRATIONS
- JUNGLE BOY BOXING  
DEMONSTRATION
- FREE FOOD PROVIDED BY  
CLYDE RESTAURANT
- DRAWINGS FOR PRIZES!



**FREE EVENT & ALL AGES WELCOME!**

(young children need to be accompanied by an adult)

## Recreation continued ...



*Rec equipment available for use at Bayfront Family Center!*

**Bayfront Family Center** will open formally starting May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Bayfront Family Center Hours**  
Monday through Thursday  
11AM-7PM

Duluth residents and tourists additional accommodations while relaxing in and around the Bayfront Festival Park. Free recreation equipment is available for public use. Area schools and youth organizations are invited to use the building and equipment for class picnics and other gatherings.

Requests are beginning to roll in from teachers of Kindergarteners and Middle Schoolers alike! All requests are fulfilled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call 218-730-4300 for more information.

## Rentals

Hosting a family reunion this summer? What about a birthday party? Prime dates in many of our beautiful City of Duluth parks fill up quickly, so the first step in event planning needs to be the reservation. All events to include 40 or more people require a permit. But to secure the park for your personal use, a permit is recommended for all size events. Without one, there is risk of another permitted event at the park at the same time. Secondly, whoever arrives first has the opportunity to occupy the pavilions and other favored areas. Only with a permit can you technically ask someone to move. There are three types of permits available, depending on your use of the park.

Special Event Permits – A special event is either: 1) open to the public, and/or, 2) charges an admission/registration fee. To be held in a City of Duluth park, the proper permit is required. Contact Gail at [gwalkowiak@duluthmn.gov](mailto:gwalkowiak@duluthmn.gov) or call 218.730.4306 to secure a permit for your special event.

Private Event Permits – Private events are “By Invitation Only”: 1) from a club or organization membership, and/or, 2) a personal invitation from a permit holder. This includes company or church picnics, birthday parties and graduation parties, but excludes weddings, which require a separate permit. Contact Terri at [tcastonguay@duluthmn.gov](mailto:tcastonguay@duluthmn.gov) or call 218.730.4320 for a Private Event Permit.

Wedding Event Permits – A wedding event is one that is: 1) a wedding ceremony, 2) a wedding rehearsal, or, 3) a wedding ceremony and picnic reception combined (not to include alcohol, live music, or dancing). Formal wedding receptions serving alcohol and having live music or DJ services are not allowed. Contact Amy at [agodsell@duluthmn.gov](mailto:agodsell@duluthmn.gov) or call 218.730.4330 for more information.

Event guides for each of these permits are available online at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/reservations/> or by contacting the appropriate staff listed above.

## Senior Services

### ATTENTION ALL SENIORS – Bus Riding 101 Classes!

Seniors – have you ever ridden in a DTA bus? Has it been a very long time since you rode in a bus? Do you try to avoid traffic entirely by no longer driving? If these statements describe you, come to “Bus Riding 101” to learn of the many conveniences available to you through the Duluth Transit Authority (DTA).



#### Bus Riding 101 Classes

Wednesday, May 21 | 11:15AM

Morgan Park Community Rec Center (1242 88<sup>th</sup> Ave W)

If you find public transportation intimidating, this informative presentation will alleviate your fears. A regular-route 40 foot bus will be on hand to tour and you will have the opportunity to ask questions of the bus driver directly after the presentation by DTA staff. Rider guides and schedules will be available. “Bus Riding 101” will help set the stage for “Senior Ride Day” in June. More information in the next Good News edition! *Events are sponsored by the City of Duluth, the DTA, and AgeWell at Home Arrowhead.* Call Theresa at 218.390.9429 for more information.



### SENIOR APPRECIATION DAY AROUND THE CORNER!

Don't forget about the upcoming “Senior Appreciation Day.”

#### Senior Appreciation Day

Wednesday, May 21 | 1-3 PM

Morgan Park Community Rec Center (1242 88<sup>th</sup> Ave W)

Entertainment will be by the multi-talented Todd Eckart singing Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, and Elvis tunes. Prize drawings and refreshments are part of a fun afternoon, as

well. Call 218-390-9429 for more information or to sign up for a bus ride from either the Portman or Evergreen bus stops. No charge to attend.

**AARP DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASSES!** Are you a licensed driver age 55 or older and want a discount on your car insurance? If so, join us in June for AARP's Defensive Driving 4-Hour Refresher Class at your choice of two sites and dates. **Please Note:** This is for qualified drivers that have previously attended the AARP 8-Hour Class for defensive driving.

#### Defensive Driving Refresher Classes

Tuesday, June 10 | 1-5 PM

Evergreen Senior Center (5830 Grand Ave)

Thursday, June 26 | 1-5 PM

Portman Senior Center (4601 McCulloch St)

A first-time class will be held at Portman Senior Center (4601 McCulloch St) on Wednesday, June 11 and Thursday, June 12 from 5-9 PM. Learners must attend both sessions.

AARP members pay only \$15, non-members pay the full class fee of \$20. Pre-registration is required. Call 218-730-4319 to sign up. *Classes brought to you by AARP and the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division.*



# Trails and Bikeways

**Trails are Closed!** All Natural Surface (hiking/biking/skiing) Trails are closed until the soil has completely dried out and further notice is given. Please stay off trails to minimize damage by foot or by bike. We recommend using the Lakewalk and the Western Waterfront Trail during this time; they remain open for use due to their hardened surfaces.

**Active Transportation Month is May 2014.** Bus. Bike. Walk. 2014 will feature the annual Mayor's Bike Ride which will be Friday, May 16, leaving from city hall and following the corridor of the Cross City Trail, (which will be under construction.) The event culminates with a program open to the public, in which the Mayor will speak and planners and engineers will be available for questions and information. National Bike to School Day is May 7. For a schedule of events: <http://healthyduluth.org/active-living/bus-bike-walk-month-may-2014/>.

**City Council Approves Rock Solid Contracting for Phase II of Mission Creek Duluth Traverse Trail.** Based on the recommendation from COGGS, the Duluth City Council approved Phase II of the Mission Creek Duluth Traverse Trail project to Rock Solid Contracting out of Copper Harbor, MI.

# Volunteer Program

**Thank you to the following groups and individuals who contributed their time and talent to parks!**



**Target Team volunteers help get Leif Erickson Park clean and green!**

***Target Corporation, Inc. (pictured)***

Clean and Green Projects in Leif Erickson Park

***Local Geocachers Group & Erin Bates***

Clean and Green along Skyline Parkway

***Girl Scouts & Troop Leader Lou Ann Siefert***

Clean and Green Lakewalk

***Friends of the Lakewalk*** – Clean and Green Lakewalk

***Junior League of Duluth*** – Clean and Green at Playfront Park

***Sue French and Family*** – Clean and Green at Various Locations

***Norton Park Community Club*** – Clean and Green at Norton Park

***Matt Oman and his St. Louis County Work Team***

Clean and Green at Wheeler Field and Various Projects

***Community Volunteers*** who helped plant trees on Arbor Day (pictured) and raise the roses in the Rose Garden





**Clean and Green – Register your Clean-Up Today:** Individuals and families, as well as school, faith, and community groups, are encouraged to register your organization for a Clean and Green 2014 project. Once registered, you'll receive garbage bags, gloves, and access to clean-up tools and equipment. Groups willing to clean in early spring are encouraged to schedule their clean-up according to anticipated snowmelt, with flexibility for changing conditions. Groups are also encouraged to register for multiple clean-ups of a specific park or location throughout the summer and fall season (April – November). **Ready to register?** Please visit [www.duluthmn.gov/parks/volunteers](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/volunteers) and complete the *Clean and Green Request Form*.

You'll be asked indicate any geographic preferences. However, if you do not have a specific location you'd like to clean, one can be assigned to you, depending on group size, age, and time availability. Completed *Clean and Green Request Forms* should be sent to [cskaft@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskaft@duluthmn.gov). Please contact Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, at 218-730-4334 with any questions.



**Volunteer CPR Program – Register your Training Today:** The Duluth Fire Department is partnering with Duluth Parks and Recreation to host a series of community training sessions on the second Monday of each month at various Duluth Park Community Centers. Training is free of charge and takes approximately one hour. Participants are given a CPR Anytime Kit and are asked to train their friends and family using the same hands-only CPR techniques they learned. For a listing of class dates, times and locations, visit [www.duluthcpr.org](http://www.duluthcpr.org).

You can get involved with our service initiative to educate, eradicate and restore our community on the impact of invasive, non-native terrestrial plants.



Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, shows two young learners a dead cane of Japanese Knotweed at the Lake Superior Zoo EarthTracks event.



#### **Buckthorn Trackers and Adopters Needed!**

Last season, volunteers tracked and mapped the Buckthorn density in Hartley Park. This year, Parks and Recreation is looking for community volunteers to adopt sections of our parks for additional Buckthorn tracking, as well as removal. Want to help out? Email Cheryl at [cskaft@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskaft@duluthmn.gov).

#### **Become an Invasive Community Educator!**

Parks and Recreation is developing an invasive education table that will be on display at various community events throughout the summer. Volunteers are needed to be at the table to talk to the public about invasive plants and upcoming events. Email Cheryl at [cskaft@duluthmn.gov](mailto:cskaft@duluthmn.gov) to get more information.

#### **Advanced Invasive Blitz Training at Hartley Nature Center!**

On Saturday, October 4, from 9AM-4PM, the Minnesota Master Naturalist Volunteer Program will be hosting an invasive training workshop at HNC. Species emphasis will be on Buckthorn, Japanese Knotweed and Tansy. Click [here](#) to learn more. **Cost:** \$50

# Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

## Mountain Biking in Duluth

Mountain biking in Duluth is a fun and challenging adventure. We currently have 30 miles of single-track biking in Duluth with trails located in Piedmont, Hartley Park, Brewer Park, Spirit Mountain, and Lester Park. Mont du Lac Recreation Area also has mountain bike trails. To download a mountain bike trail map go to the COGGS (Cyclists of Gitchee Gummi Shores) website at <http://www.coggs.com/trails.php>

## Take a Hike! On Duluth's City Trails

Chester Park Trails --- 1800 East Skyline Parkway	Lincoln Park Trail --- Lincoln Park Dr and W 3 <sup>rd</sup> St
Congdon Park Trails --- 32 <sup>nd</sup> Ave E & Superior St	Magney-Snively Trail --- 1/4 mile west of
Grassy Point Trail --- end of Leisure Street	100 <sup>th</sup> Ave W and Skyline Pkwy
Hartley Park Trails --- 3001 Woodland Ave	Park Point Trail --- end of Minnesota Ave
Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve --- 4000 E Skyline Pkwy	Piedmont Trail --- Adirondack & Hutchinson Rd
Kingsbury Creek Trail --- Dead end of Waseca St	Western Waterfront Trail --- 7300 block off
Lakewalk --- Canal Park to Brighton Beach	Grand Ave/Pulaski St
Lester Park Trail --- 60 <sup>th</sup> Ave E and Superior St	

## Skateboard Park at Wheeler Field Athletic Complex

The skateboard park is open for use 7 days a week, weather permitting, until 10 pm. Skateboarders, in-line skaters and bikers are all welcome. Indoor vending machines and bathrooms are available. Deck observation and seating area are also available. **Location:** The skateboard park: 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue West and Grand Avenue. Skate ramps are also located at Gary New Duluth, Keene Creek Park, Midtown Park, and the Depot parking lot.

## Disc Golf Course

People wanting to play disc golf can use the nine-basket course at Miller Creek Disc Golf Course by Lake Superior College (2101 Trinity Rd) and a nine-basket course at the Morgan Park Community Recreation Center (1242 88<sup>th</sup> Ave W).

## Playgrounds

Bayfront Festival Park / Playfront Playground---	Lafayette --- 3026 Minnesota Ave
South 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave W & Railroad St	Lester --- 61 <sup>st</sup> Ave E & Superior St
Blackmer --- Beverly St & 84 <sup>th</sup> Ave W	Lilliput --- 315 E 5 <sup>th</sup> St
Cascade --- 6 <sup>th</sup> St & 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave W	Lincoln --- 25 <sup>th</sup> Ave W & 5 <sup>th</sup> St
Central Hillside --- Lake Ave & 4 <sup>th</sup> St	Memorial --- 5315 Grand Ave
Chester Bowl --- 1800 E Skyline Parkway	Merritt --- 4017 W 7 <sup>th</sup> St
Duluth Heights --- 33 W Mulberry St	Morgan Park --- 1242 88 <sup>th</sup> Ave W
Endion --- 1602 E Second St	Norton Park --- Coleman & 81 <sup>st</sup> Ave W
Fairmont --- 72 <sup>nd</sup> Ave W & Grand	Observation --- 914 W Third St
Fond du Lac --- 131 <sup>st</sup> Ave W & 5 <sup>th</sup> St	Park Point --- 45 <sup>th</sup> St & Minnesota Ave
Franklin --- 12 <sup>th</sup> St & Minnesota Ave	Piedmont --- 2302 W 23 <sup>rd</sup> St
Grant --- 901 E 11 <sup>th</sup> St	Portland Square --- 4 <sup>th</sup> St & 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave E
Grosvenor Square --- Pitt & 49 <sup>th</sup> Ave E	Portman --- 4601 McCulloch St
Harrison --- 3002 W Third St	Riverside --- 55 Cato St
Hillside Sport Center --- 408 E 8 <sup>th</sup> St	Washington Square --- Superior St & 43 <sup>rd</sup> Ave E
Irving --- 20 S 57 <sup>th</sup> Ave W	Wheeler Field --- 35 <sup>th</sup> Ave W & Grand Ave
Keene Creek --- Bristol St & 63 <sup>rd</sup> Ave W	Woodland --- 3211 Allendale Ave

Parks and Recreation can provide additional information concerning recreational activities, maps, and updated schedules for special activities by going to our website at [www.duluthmn.gov/parks](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks) Please use the phone numbers listed or call the Parks and Recreation office at 218-730-4300.